REMARKS

Applicants' undersigned attorney thanks the Examiner for the opportunity to discuss the present application with her yesterday.

In a second non-final office action, the present application stands with its independent claims 1, 2, 3, 9, 15, 21, 27, 28, 29 and 35 rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by the newly cited Bector et al. (Bector) patent. The dependent claims have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Bector in view of the previously cited Borella et al. patent.

Applicants have amended each of the independent claims to include the recitation of:

"the translations by the NAT being performed in response to a request previously sent by the client to the NAT that defines for the unsupported protocol a location of the GPN within packets sent between the client and the NAT that indicates a bit position where the GPN begins within such packets and a length of the GPN",

or similar language, which is essentially the language used in the copending and now-allowed application 09/698,973. The inclusion of this language in each of the independent claims clearly distinguishes all claims of the present application from the Bector patent. Each of the independent claims is now believed to be allowable.
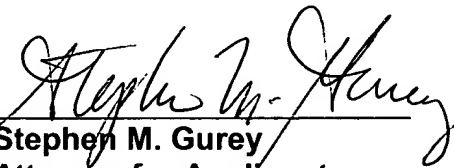
Inasmuch as the independent claims are believed to be allowable, each of the dependent claims thereon should also be allowable.

In view of the foregoing, allowance of all the claims presently in the application and passage to issue of the subject application is respectfully requested. If the Examiner should feel that the application is not yet in a condition for allowance and that a telephone interview would be useful, he is invited to contact applicants' undersigned attorney at 973, 386-8252.

Respectfully submitted,

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